

Filed for intro on 02/22/95
Senate Bill _____
By _____

House No. HJR0097
By West, Jr.

A RESOLUTION to urge the Tennessee Bicentennial Commission to use the book Tennessee State Symbols by Rob Simbeck as part of the state's Bicentennial celebration.

WHEREAS, on June 1, 1796, Tennessee was admitted into the union as the sixteenth state, becoming the first state to emerge from territorial status; and

WHEREAS, also in that historic year, the first General Assembly met in Knoxville, the first governor, John Sevier, was inaugurated and William Blount and William Cocke were selected as the first two United States senators from the state; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Bicentennial Commission has been created to coordinate the celebration of our 200th year of statehood and provide a focus for citizens wishing to learn more about our rich cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee State Symbols, a very informative, interesting and highly regarded book by Rob Simbeck, is unquestionably the best source of information about the fascinating stories behind our flag, Capitol, the mockingbird, the iris and each of the other state symbols; and

WHEREAS, this book should be used to help Tennesseans and others learn about the history and environment of our great state; and

WHEREAS, former governor Ned Ray McWherter has praised the book, stating: "Mr. Simbeck is to be congratulated on providing additional information about Tennessee state symbols which should prove helpful, interesting and amusing to students and lovers of our state history."; and

WHEREAS, Governor Don Sundquist lauded the book, calling it "An interesting, insightful look at Tennessee's symbols, tradition and heritage. Rob Simbeck's book will be a wonderful companion to Tennessee's Bicentennial celebration"; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we voice our strong opinion that this exemplary book be used to the fullest extent possible during our bicentennial celebration; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we strongly urge the Tennessee Bicentennial Commission use and promote the use of Tennessee State Symbols by Rob Simbeck.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be sent to the Tennessee Bicentennial Commission and to Rob Simbeck, with this final clause omitted from such copies.